

THE MONTANA NEWS.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Advertising Rates made known upon application at this office.

Any subscriber not receiving the News regularly should notify this office at once. It only takes a one cent postal card. Our mailing list is practically perfect, and many errors are carelessly made at certain postoffices, and our readers can assist us greatly in promptly notifying this office of the same.



Peabody favors the militia and so does Gov. Toole.

Socialist increase depends upon education and organization.

Montana's capitalist legislature will convene in twelve days.

Comrades can assist the News by acting at once on the requests of the "red" letter sent them over two weeks ago.

In precinct three of Denver it was found that the democrats had voted 340 illegal votes and the republican 28. The Socialists voted no illegal votes, and still you working mules can't see why we need Socialism.

The Butte Miner plays the roll of double thief when it bribes a man like Pat Peoples for a thousand dollars, and then steals \$20,000 from the county crib. It at least fails to pay its help an honest percentage of the theft.

It begins to look as if Peabody would be Colorado's next governor. The grossest fraud was committed at election time by both old parties. The union deserter who betrayed his own working class party at the polls will have something to reflect over if Peabody is seated.

It is said that the railroads are going to make a great fight in congress against increasing the powers of the inter-state railroad commission with a view of lowering freight rates. Why, never worry. Roosevelt's stab at this lessening of freight rates is all capitalistic bluff and must be done in order to fool the common cattle who rushed to the polls on election day to vote for him.

The New York papers are having a lot to say of late as regards the establishing of an all-night bank; and the working mules are lead to really believe that it is a sign of great advancement. It simply shows that the banker is not satisfied with robbing the public during the day and drawing interest from the working class while he sleeps, but that a den must be opened to continue the fleecing operation during the night.

An officer of the Western Federation of Miners said in Denver the other day that they, meaning his union, were well satisfied with the American Labor Union and would stay affiliated with it; that there was no intention of going to the American Federation of Labor. That's good, but how about the members of these two organizations scabbing on election day, and their official journal endorsing the scab proposition, on the assinine plea that the worker must be educated to understand Socialism before he will vote for it?

According to reports, the enforcement of the child labor law of Illinois went into effect Monday, and as a result it is estimated that 2,500 boys were taken from underground work. The working class advances slowly but surely. There are a num-

ber of advances to be made. Why simply take these boys out of the mines, unless we provide schools and keeping at the expense of the taxpayers? That is what should be done. When boys and girls of the working class are taken from their former work, if any of them are by these new laws, they should be provided all the necessities incidental to a first class education.

THAT "RED" LETTER APPEAL.

Only one more issue of the News between now and the first of the year, and we desire to urge upon the comrades this week, the necessity of the disposal of the subscription cards and the remitting of the money to this office before January 1, 1905.

To double the circulation of the News would be an easy matter if every reader would take a little interest in the cause, and get out and sell a few subscriptions; but for two or three of us to double the circulation means a year's work. To double the circulation means a double mission; it would give us money enough to pay off the mortgage against this plant and at the same time carry the Socialist propaganda to many hundreds who would in the year's time become aligned with the movement.

Let us impress upon the minds of the comrades who received that "red" letter a few weeks ago that it is imperative that they help out at this time. And let us further impress upon the comrades that we are not asking for any voluntary contributions, but that we are urging upon your duty to the cause, i. e., to sell a few subscriptions. Will you do this at once or will you procrastinate until it is too late to help?

Many of the letters sent out have not as much as returned an answer; if these comrades would write us letters advising us to quit publishing the paper and get out of the Socialist movement "because it is so hard to get the workers to do anything" for themselves, we would feel much better pleased than to receive no answer whatever. Why, the comrades appear to get a letter and throw it aside without the thought of the courtesy even of an answer.

Now comrades in conclusion let us urge upon you at this time the need of your assistance in the field as a solicitor for a few subscriptions that we may not only keep the Montana News going but that we may improve it, double its circulation, yea, quadruple it, and continue to carry the gospel of the Socialist movement to the workers until such time that they shall stand aligned in solid phalanx at the ballot box to strike the blow that sends capitalism crumbling to the ground and establishes the great co-operative commonwealth.

CATHOLIC ON SOCIALISM.

We noted some weeks ago a letter written by Mr. Francis B. Livesey, who very appropriately lives at a place called Sykesville, Md., in which fears were expressed for the salvation of Cardinal Gibbons because the Cardinal had spoken some friendly words about trade unionism. Mr. Livesey argued that a word for trade unionism was a word for Socialism.

Now comes Rev. P. Ullrich F. Mueller, C. P. S., whose very name is a guaranty against liberalism, and in a letter to The Catholic Tribune, dated from Carthage, Ohio, says:

"I have made Socialism one of the principal studies of my life. Some thirty or forty volumes of Socialistic literature fill my shelves, all the Socialistic campaign pamphlets of the two last elections, a number of foremost Socialist weeklies and a first class monthly form the base of my judgment. But is unionism Socialism? Emphatically: No! Unionism dare never be confounded with Socialism. Even where unions have declared by a majority referendum vote for Socialism the unions, as such, stand for other principles than Socialism. If they declare for 'Socialism,' as did the Western Federation of Miners, the meaning is (1) that they intend to support the 'Socialist ticket;' (2) that they strive for 'the co-operative commonwealth.' They do not thereby as yet approve of the 'entire Socialist philosophy.' The class

conscious Socialist, too, must in many cases be distinguished from the 'Socialist voter.' The former, if he is consistent, is an atheist; the latter often an ignorant fellow, who by his vote wants to protest against the present mode of production and distribution of wealth, a fact which after all cannot, his ignorance presupposed, be so very grievous if we consider the starvation wages, the child labor, the overwork, etc., as prevalent in many fields of employment."

Father Mueller's desire is obviously to keep these poor fellows in the church rather than to read them out. Altogether a laudable purpose for one whose mission is the salvation of souls.—Catholic Citizen.

THE SECRETARY'S WAGES.

The membership of the American Labor union have set an example for the Socialist party in their taking a referendum vote to reduce the salaries of their national president and secretary. On this suggestion from the "pure and simples" it might be well for the Socialist party to consider paying the national secretary \$1,500 per year, which is far in excess of a proletarian income. In fact Comrades Lynch, Hughes and Walsh sacrifice their time in publishing the News in the interest of the cause; many others are doing as much; one man is as much to the cause as another. The idea of paying the national secretary \$125 per month, while we pay other comrades who work in the same office, and just as hard, about half that sum, is far from Socialism. It appears that we need someone who understands Socialism to teach the practice of Socialism to the Socialists. If the party would contribute such wages as that to the three comrades mentioned above we will put out a paper that will drive the boodle sheets out of business. In fact it would be a graft; and in three months time we would be printing a large daily. Just think of we three here drawing \$375 per month, and then possibly hiring some other comrade in the same office at half the wages. If this isn't aristocracy and rank distinction, then there is no such a thing. Let us change this matter of paying a national secretary such wages, and give him a proletarian wage scale.

THE STATE ORGANIZATION.

When the comrades read the article in another column from the state secretary, they will evidently realize the shiftless condition of the party organization in this state.

The hard proposition appears to be, not to make Socialists from the recruits, but to make real Socialists out of your Socialists. Many join the party organization and attend a meeting or two, and then fail to show up.

According to the vote upon the amendments submitted to the voters at the last election, only about 50 per cent of the legal voters who voted the head of some ticket voted for the amendments. This shows conclusively that only about half of the people are ready to vote for issues, to cast aside personalities and take up generalities.

In Florida, a retiring editor of the Socialist paper of that state, says that he thinks the state paper ought to have a larger subscription list than 250, when a total vote of 2,300 was cast at the last election. One would naturally think that he was right, but it appears to be a mistake to figure upon much being done, by the number in the organization. The few hustlers appear to be made to carry the load.

The same lax condition or lethargic sleep appears to prevail among the comrades from Florida to Washington, and can only be explained from a psychological standpoint.

The Montana News sent out a large number of circular letters asking for aid for the paper by selling subscription cards. So far, as we go to press, sufficient has been received to pay the postage on letters of appeal sent out, but as to getting in sufficient to pay the interest on the mortgage on the plant that falls due the first of the year, that's out of the question. In fact some of the comrades have not even been courteous enough to answer the letters

sent them. We know they got them for the same were sent in return envelopes, and their failure to come back to this office is proof that the parties received them to whom they were addressed. Now as a matter of fact, every Socialist who reads this paper could go out tomorrow and get at least one new subscriber, and some could get more. That would double the circulation.

The state secretary shows that the same lax condition exists in the membership even as to paying their dues. Just think of a class conscious Socialist failing to attend his local meetings or pay his dues? And then he is the fellow who stands up ready to criticize the "pure and simple" union man who pays his dues to hold his job. And after he becomes a militant Socialist he thinks his chief duty is to let off "hot air."

You must awake from this shiftless, sleepy way, comrades, and get into the movement, for without the organization the Socialist movement is a failure, and with a strong organization of militant, class conscious, dues paying members the battle is ours in another campaign in the state of Montana.

For God sake wake up and do your duty by giving your assistance to the state secretary that is due him.

UNION PETITIONS NEEDED.

It is said that the women of the country are to be in the Montana legislature next month to fight for the woman suffrage right to be made a law. Very probable that both old capitalist humbug parties overlooked that Socialist point or they would have had it in their platforms. In fact they would have put anything in their platforms if it showed any signs of getting them votes. However, as long as they did not declare themselves upon this point, the News would now suggest to the women that they get to the "pure and simple" union men who are long on petitions and scabbing at the polls, and request the many unions of the state to send in petitions to the legislature to pass a law granting the right of franchise to the women. In fact the unions would delight in parading around with a useless petition, getting signers to pray to the capitalist hirelings, shyster lawyers, citizens alliance and scabs that will compose the make-up of the body of legislators. The unions have been so long on bended knee before these august bodies that they generally seem to think it rather an honor to go begging of them for most any old thing. Let the women get the unions in on this proposition.

FIGHT GIRL STENOGRAPHERS.

The Anti-Women Stenographers society of Columbus, Ohio, which is organized to foster sentiment against young girls as stenographers in offices, gives out the following statistics in regard to this matter:

During the past 10 years 6,263 divorce cases have been filed by wives in the courts of this country naming their husbands' fair stenographers as co-respondents. In 5,951 of these cases sufficient proof has been produced to influence the court in granting the wives the decree of divorce.

In the past 10 years 796 employers in this country were made defendants in breach of promise suits instituted by their fair stenographers, and of this number it was shown by testimony in open court that in 361 cases the employer had first caused the disgrace of the plaintiffs under promise of marriage.

The mistake of the above named society, is in the way that they propose to eliminate the trouble. The present competitive system is accountable for it all. Unless something is done to relieve the girls from being driven to this kind of life, it will continue. The capitalist system that forces competition in the labor market, and drives girls to do the bidding of their employers, is the cause, and the effect cannot be remedied by all the associations on earth unless the cause be removed. Socialism only will remove it.

The society also charges that the profession unites young women for the duties of home and wives, and that few young men regard young women stenographers as suitable for wives.

FREE TO THE BOYS

We have Just Received a direct importation from Europe of a large Consignment of HIGH GRADE MECHANICAL TOYS

Consisting of Dancing Clowns, Railroad Trains, Dancing Dogs, Boys walking on Stilts, Automobiles, and in fact everything that is new and novel in mechanical toys. To every person purchasing a Boy's suit or Overcoat we will give you your choice of any toy in the house ABSOLUTELY FREE. See the display in our Main street window.

HOUSE COATS
Dressing Gowns, Bath Robes

The opportunities that await Christmas shoppers in this department are unequalled. The patterns are the handsomest, the variety of different styles, the most extensive, and range of prices the widest to be found in any similar lines. Many extraordinary values are included.

House Coats

In a splendid selection of styles and patterns; \$20 down to . . . \$5.00

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Made from imported and domestic flannels; \$20 down to . . . \$6.50

Buy the Boy His Christmas Suit or Overcoat Here and Get his Christmas Toy Free.

N. B.—We are also giving a handsome Nubian Silver Tray free to every customer purchasing \$1.00 worth or more of goods.

The HUB

L. WEIGEL, Pres.

CORNER MAIN AND 6TH

GOV. TOOLE FAVORS MILITIA.

The papers stated the other day that Governor Joseph K. Toole has received a communication from General George Harris, chairman of the committee on military organization for the parade attending the inauguration of President Roosevelt, March 4, 1905, extending an invitation to the militia of Montana to be present in Washington and participate.

"There will be a large parade at the inauguration exercises in which the military organizations of the various states are invited to participate. It is not expected, however, that the Montana militia will be in attendance although Governor Toole stated that it would be an excellent thing if the various companies could be present." What do you working mules who voted for Gov. Toole, your labor idol, think of that? He thinks it would be an EXCELLENT thing to make the military parade something that would eclipse the army parades of the European despots. It appears that the military spirit is growing, and that Montana's democratic governor would highly appreciate seeing a great military parade around open-shop Roosevelt at the inauguration ceremonies. Good for the capitalist hirelings—give the workers what they voted for—militias, bayonets, bullets and bull pens. If that kind of "dope" will not arouse them, then Socialism is a failure.

The Appeal to Reason appears to be getting a great amount of criticism handed it of late by the Socialist papers all over the country. That fake, humbug co-operative advertisement appears to have raised the ire of many of the class conscious writers. The latest suggestion by the Appeal to its readers is to start local papers. Some more chastising is due to arrive upon this suggestion immediately. When the Socialist papers now established are

struggling for an existence, it does look like poor advice for some Socialist to advise the comrades to undertake something that they must certainly fail at. What the movement needs more than any other one thing is a good Socialist paper. There is not a first class Socialist paper published in the United States. The International Socialist Review fills its mission as a monthly, and Wilshire's magazine is very good, but as to our publications being up to the standard, we are far from it.

Comrades over the state can greatly assist the News office by securing job printing in their localities. Our prices on such as letter heads, bill heads, envelopes, statements, calling cards, professional cards, etc., are generally lower than any other place in the state. In fact we are prepared to handle this kind of work. Secure some of this work from the merchants with whom you trade, and send it to the News. The comrades can help in this way with no financial loss to themselves, if they will. How about you. Will you assist?

In a fight to cut down government expenses the other day in the house, "the pay of the stenographers to the committees of the house was reduced from \$5,000 per annum to \$3,000, and the house refused to accept the provision increasing the pay of the secretary to the civil service commission." The point to be noticed in this effort to reduce expenses is the cutting of the wages of some poor stenographer. Congressman Dixon and all the rest of the congressmen who are drawing their \$5,000 per year and mileage, say not a word about cutting their own wages, but reduced the stenographers, who get just enough to keep living. Oh, this is a nice system, isn't it, workers? You ought to be satisfied, you voted for it, and you are getting what you voted for.

CAPITAL CLOTHING COMPANY

WHAT SHALL I GIVE FOR XMAS?

We Can Help You and Save You Money . . .

A FEW EYE OPENERS

Men's Smoking Jackets, \$9, \$8 Solid Leather Suit Cases \$18, and \$7.50 to . . . \$5.00 \$15, and \$12.50 to . . . \$5.00
Silk Lined Mocha Gloves, per Monarch, full dress shirts \$1.25 pair . . . \$1.25 Men's Night Robes . . . \$1.25

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STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES!
Also Boots and Shoes—New Line

We make a specialty of Large Mining and Ranch trade,—will figure on your bill at any time.

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